[PROPOSED] STATEMENT OF UNCONTROVERTED FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF JAMES R. GLIDEWELL DENTAL CERAMICS, INC.'S MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT AS TO KEATING DENTAL ARTS, INC.'S INVALIDITY DEFENSE AND COUNTERCLAIM

Having considered Plaintiff and Cross-Counterclaimant James R. Glidewell Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s ("Glidewell") motion for partial summary judgment in Glidewell's favor as to Keating Dental Arts, Inc.'s ("Keating") First Affirmative Defense of invalidity of Glidewell's BruxZir trademark, Registration No. 3,739,663, and as to Keating's Fourth Counterclaim for Cancellation of Trademark Registration No. 3,739,663, the supporting evidence and other materials submitted therewith, and Keating's opposition thereto, the Court finds that there is no genuine disputes as to the facts set forth below, and the Court further makes the following conclusions of law.

## I. <u>UNCONTROVERTED FACTS</u>

Uncontroverted Facts	Supporting Evidence
1. The BruxZir mark is a registered	Declaration of Keith Allred In Support
mark.	Of James R. Glidewell Dental
	Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary
	Judgment ("Allred Decl.") ¶¶ 3-5;
	Exhibit 59 to the Appendix of Evidence
	in Support of James R. Glidewell
	Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s Motions for
	Summary Judgment (hereinafter,
	"Appendix of Evidence").
2. The BruxZir mark was registered	Allred Decl., ¶¶ 3-5; Exhibit 59 to
on the Principal Register on January	Appendix of Evidence.
19, 2010, as Reg. No. 3,739,663.	
3. The United States Patent and	Allred Decl., ¶¶ 3-5; Exhibit 60 to
Trademark Office ("PTO") issued the	Appendix of Evidence.
mark without requiring any showing of	
secondary meaning.	
,	[PROPOSED] STATEMENT OF UNCONTROVERTED FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW IN

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	1 2 3	founder and CEO, admitted that REDACTED	Keating ("Keating Depo."), at: 114:18-115:5, attached Exhibit 85 to Appendix of Evidence.
	4		of Evidence.
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	6	9.	Exhibit 15, KDA3355, 3358, to
	7 ·	REDACTED	Appendix of Evidence.
nia Plaza	8		
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LICI  Two California Plazz 00071	12 13	DEDACTED	
V IIIII ICES 2600, Tw ornia 900	14	10. REDACTED	Exhibit 15, at KDA3446, to Appendix
C V - LLP - Suite 2 les, Califo 13) 929.2	15	REDACTED	of Evidence.
Grand Aven	16	REDACTED 11.	Exhibit 15, at KDA3444, to Appendix
350 South C	17	REDACTED	of Evidence
350	18		of Byrdenee
	19		
•	20		
	21	12. Practicing dentists located	Declaration of Gregory Doneff, D.D.S,
	22 23	throughout the country have testified	In Support Of James R. Glidewell
	23	that the BruxZir mark is not generic.	Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For
	25	·	Summary Judgment ("Doneff Decl.");
	26		Declaration of Thomas E. Bell,
	27		D.M.D., In Support Of James R.
	28		Glidewell Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s

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1 Motion For Summary Judgment ("Bell 2 Decl."); Declaration of Stuart R. 3 Newman, D.D.S., In Support Of James 4 R. Glidewell Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s 5 Motion For Summary Judgment 6 ("Newman Decl."); Declaration of 7 Spencer D. Luke, D.M.D., In Support 8 Of James R. Glidewell Dental 9 Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary 10 Judgment ("Luke Decl."); Declaration 11 of Howard S. Cohen, D.D.S., In 12 Support Of James R. Glidewell Dental 13 Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary 14 Judgment ("Cohen Decl."); Declaration 15 of Terence J. Michiels, D.D.S., In 16 Support Of James R. Glidewell Dental 17 Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary 18 Judgment ("Michiels Decl."); 19 Declaration of Kent J, Toca, D.D.S., In 20 Support Of James R. Glidewell Dental 21 Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary 22 Judgment ("Toca Decl."). 23 Dr. Doneff testifies: "[s]ince Doneff Decl., ¶ 4; Bell Decl., ¶ 4; 13. 24 learning about Glidewell Labs's Newman Decl., ¶ 4; Luke Decl., ¶ 4; 25 BRUXZIR brand zirconia crowns and Cohen Decl., ¶ 4; Michiels Decl., ¶4; 26 bridges in 2009 and through the date of Toca Decl., ¶ 4. 27 this declaration, I have known, and 28

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through various communications with other dentists, I am aware that other dentists have known, that the BRUXZIR mark is a brand or trademark that signifies a single source of zirconia crowns and bridges and the zirconia material from which those products are made. Since learning about Glidewell Labs's BRUXZIR brand zirconia crowns and bridges in 2009 and through the date of this declaration, I have known, and through my various communications with other dentists, I am aware that other dentists have known, that the BRUXZIR mark is a brand or trademark associated with Glidewell Labs." This testimony of Dr. Doneff's is representative of the testimonies of Dr. Bell, Dr. Newman, Dr. Luke, Dr. Cohen, Dr. Michiels, and Dr. Toca.

14. Dr. Doneff also testifies that:
"Both before and after September 2010,
I, and other dentists with whom I
regularly communicate, use the term
"bruxer" exclusively to refer to a
person who suffers from bruxism; i.e.,

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Doneff Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Bell Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Newman Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Luke Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Cohen Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Michiels Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Toca Decl., ¶¶ 7-8.

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habitual and destructive grinding of the teeth and clenching of the jaw. Both before and after September 2010, the terms "bruxer," "bruxer crown," "bruxzir," and "bruxzir crown" are not terms that I, nor the dentists I communicate with, use to refer to zirconia crowns and bridges as a type or category of product. I have never used any of these terms to refer to zirconia crowns or bridges as a type or category of product, and I have never heard any other dentist use any of those terms for that purpose. Rather, both before and after I learned about Glidewell Labs's BRUXZIR brand zirconia crowns and bridges in 2009, when referring to zirconia crowns and bridges as a type or category of product generally, I, and the dentists that I communicate with, use the terms "zirconia crowns," "all zirconia crowns," "monolithic zirconia crowns," "full zirconia crowns," or "solid zirconia crowns." This testimony of Dr. Doneff is representative of the testimonies of Dr. Bell, Dr. Newman,

	1	Dr. Luke, Dr. Cohen, Dr. Michiels, and	
	2	Dr. Toca.	
	3	15. Jim Shuck, Glidewell's Vice	Declaration of James Shuck In Support
	4	President of Sales and Marketing, and a	Of James R. Glidewell Dental
	5	thirty-six year veteran of the dental	Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary
	6	industry, testifies that "[t]he generic	Judgment ("Shuck Decl.") ¶ 14.
	7	terms for a BruxZir brand crown are	
	8	'crown,' 'crown for bruxers,' or 'all	
	9	zirconia crown.' I have also heard a	
	10	'solid zirconia crown,' and a 'full	
	11	contour zirconia crown.' The term	
	12	'bruxzir' is not used by Glidewell – or,	
	13 14	to my knowledge, widely or generally	·
	15	used by anyone else – to refer to solid	
į	16	zirconia crowns."	
	17	16. Dr. Michel DiTolla, Glidewell's	Declaration of Dr. Michel C. DiTolla
	18	Director of Clinical Education &	In Support Of James R. Glidewell
	19	Research, and a practicing dentist since	Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For
2 2 2 2	20	1988, testifies that he directly interacts	Summary Judgment ("DiTolla Decl.")
	21	with two to three thousand dentists per	¶ 11.
	22	year, the vast majority of which "have	
	23	made statements indicating that they	
	24	understand that BruxZir identifies	
	25	Glidewell as the source of the crown	
	26	products."	
	27	17. Dr. DiTolla testifies, "when	DiTolla Decl. ¶ 11.
	28	referring generally to a zirconia crown,	
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participated in seventeen trade shows – attended by many thousands of dentists in total – since January of 2009, testifies that: "through [his] various communications with dentists and dental lab representatives at trade shows, [he is] aware that dentists and dental lab representatives generally are aware that the BruxZir mark is a brand or trademark that signifies a single source of zirconia crowns and bridges and the zirconia material from which those products are made."

Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary Judgment ("Bartolo Decl.") ¶ 5.

22. Dr. Ronald Goldstein opines that "dentists do not refer to solid zirconia crowns as 'bruxers' or 'bruxer crowns," and that "dentists do not understand the mark BruxZir to refer to solid zirconia crowns from any source, but rather ... dentists understand the mark BruxZir to identify the source of solid zirconia crowns and material to make solid zirconia crowns – the solid zirconia crowns supplied by Glidewell."

Declaration of Dr. Ronald Goldstein In Support Of James R. Glidewell Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary Judgment ("Goldstein Decl.") ¶ 9.

23. Professor David Franklyn opines that "Glidewell's BruxZir mark is not generic but rather is a suggestive mark,

Declaration of David Franklyn In Support Of James R. Glidewell Dental Ceramics, Inc.'s Motion For Summary

Zirconia Restorations Available."	
28. The advertisement goes on to say	Exhibit 20 (KDA000854) to Appendix
that "KDZ Bruxer is the ideal	of Evidence.
combination of strength and esthetics	
for your posterior crowns and bridges."	
29. Drake Precision Laboratory	Exhibit 23 (KDA-002448) to Appendi
advertises its zirconia crown using the	of Evidence.
mark ZIR-CAST.	
30. Drake describes its product with	Exhibit 23 (KDA-002448) to Appendi
such terms as "all-ceramic," "solid	of Evidence.
zirconia," "high translucency zirconia,"	
"monolithic," "nonmetallic," etc.	
31. Keating's advertising materials	Exhibit 16 (KDA 00843, 00851-00854
demonstrate that Keating can, and does,	to Appendix of Evidence.
describe its products using a variety of	
alternative words and phrases such as	
"dental zirconia," "medical grade	
zirconia for posterior single units	
and bridges," "full contour zirconia,"	
"alternative to full-cast gold," "full-	
contour zirconia restoration," "for	
patients who grind or lack preparation	
space or porcelain," etc.	
32. Prior to Glidewell's introduction	DiTolla Decl., ¶ 17; Goldstein Decl., ¶
of its BruxZir brand products, neither	12-14; Doneff Decl, ¶ 8; Bell Decl.,
"bruxzir" nor "bruxer" had previously	¶ 8; Newman Decl., ¶ 8; Luke Decl.,
been used for the same or similar	¶ 8; Cohen Decl., ¶ 8; Michiels Decl.,

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products.	¶ 8; Toca Decl., ¶ 8.
33. Actual purchasers associate the	Doneff Decl, ¶¶ 3-6, 9-10; Bell Decl.
BurxZir mark with Glidewell. These	¶¶ 3-6, 9-10; Newman Decl., ¶¶ 3-6,
include Doctors Doneff, Bell, Newman,	10; Luke Decl., ¶¶ 3-6, 9-10; Cohen
Luke, Cohen, Michiels, and Toca.	Decl., ¶¶ 3-6, 9-10; Michiels Decl.,
	¶¶3-6, 9-10; Toca Decl., ¶¶ 3-6, 9-10
34. Dr. Doneff states: "Since	Doneff Decl., ¶ 5; Bell Decl., ¶ 5;
learning about Glidewell Labs's	Newman Decl., ¶ 5; Luke Decl., ¶ 5;
BRUXZIR brand zirconia crowns and	Cohen Decl., ¶ 5; Michiels Decl., ¶ 5
bridges in 2009 and through the date of	Toca Decl., ¶ 5.
this declaration, I have known, and	
through various communications with	
other dentists, I am aware that other	
dentists have known, that the	
BRUXZIR mark is a brand or	
trademark that signifies that Glidewell	
Labs is the source of zirconia crowns	•
and bridges marketed under that	
trademark." This testimony of Dr.	
Doneff is representative of the	
testimonies of Dr. Bell, Dr. Newman,	
Dr. Luke, Dr. Cohen, Dr. Michiels, and	
Dr. Toca.	
35. Dr. Doneff also states: "Since	Doneff Decl., ¶ 9; Bell Decl., ¶ 9;
learning about Glidewell Labs's	Newman Decl., ¶ 9; Luke Decl., ¶ 9;
BRUXZIR brand zirconia crowns and	Cohen Decl., ¶ 9; Michiels Decl., ¶ 9;
bridges in 2009 and through the date of	Toca Decl., ¶ 9.

	brand products, Glidewell has	19, 21-22, and 24-25 to the Appendix
	consistently and regularly advertised	of Evidence.
	the brand, in association with the	
	Glidewell Labs name, in a wide variety	
	of ways, including via the company's	
	website ( <u>www.bruxzir.com</u> ) and blog,	
	press releases, patient and doctor	
	education brochures, videos,	
	advertisements in dental publications,	
	direct mailers, email blasts, and trade	
	shows.	
	41. BruxZir.com received	Shuck Decl., ¶ 21.
	approximately 289,210 unique	
	pageviews between October 2009 and	•
	November 2012, with 78% of this	·
	volume from U.S. traffic.	
l	42. Glidewell regularly and	Shuck Decl., ¶ 22; DiTolla Decl., ¶¶ 6-
	consistently advertises the BruxZir	7; Exhibits 21-22 to the Appendix of
	brand product line in dental industry	Evidence.
	publications, including ADA News,	
	Chairside Magazine, Dental	
	Economics, Dental Lab Reports,	
	Dentaltown, Dental Tribune, Dentistry	
	Today, Inclusive Magazine, the Journal	
	of Dental Technology, and Lab	
	Management Today.	
	43. Glidewell consistently sends out	Shuck Decl., ¶ 23.

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	2	name, in a wide variety of contexts,	
	3	including on the booth, the signage, in	
	4	brochures, takeaways, and product	
	5	displays and demonstrations.	
	6	48. As part of Glidewell's marketing	Shuck Decl., ¶ 27; DiTolla Decl., ¶¶ 4-
	7	efforts for the BruxZir brand,	5; Exhibit 73 to the Evidence of
	8	Glidewell's Director of Clinical	Appendix.
	9	Education and Research, Dr. DiTolla,	
	10	made a series of educational videos in	
	11	2009 and 2010, and he made a	·
10071	12	compendium of all videos with a new	
120	13	introduction in 2011.	
ornia 90 2500	14	49. The videos explain and illustrate	Shuck Decl., ¶ 27.
les, Calif (13) 929.	15	various features and benefits of	
Los Ange (7	16	BruxZir brand products, and	
Los	17	prominently feature the BruxZir brand	
	18	in association with the Glidewell Labs	
	19	name.	
	20	50. The videos are publicly available	Shuck Decl., ¶ 27.
	21	on Glidewell's website and YouTube	
	22	channel, and the video pages have had	
	23	approximately 30,000 unique	
	24	pageviews between October 2009 and	
	25	November 2012.	
	26	51. Glidewell personnel, including	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 28-29; DiTolla Decl.,
	27	Dr. DiTolla and Robin Carden (Vice	¶¶ 4-10; Carden Decl., ¶¶ 3-6, 11-15;
	28	President of Research and	Exhibits 21-22, 24-25, 53-57, 67, and

2	Development) regularly publish articles	73 to the Appendix of Evidence.
3	and give presentations that prominently	
4	feature the BurxZir brand in association	
, ∦⊦	with the Glidewell Labs name.	
	52. The BruxZir brand and BruxZir	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 30-36; Carden Decl.,
	brand products have garnered	15; Exhibits 26-38, and 41-45 to the
	substantial third party recognition in	Appendix of Evidence.
	the form of, for example, awards and	
L	laudatory press coverage.	
	53. Glidewell's total marketing	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 38-41; Exhibit 46 to
	expenses for the BruxZir brand product	the Appendix of Evidence.
	line from June 2009 through June 2012	
	are approximately REDACTED ,	
	which represents approximately CTED of	
	Glidewell's overall marketing budget.	
4	54. Of this figure, approximately ACT	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 38-41; Exhibit 46 to
	REDACTED was directed	the Appendix of Evidence.
	to advertising and marketing BruxZir	
	brand finished crowns and bridges.	
	55. Glidewell's extensive promotion	Doneff Decl., ¶¶ 3-4, 10; Bell Decl.,
•	of the BruxZir mark has been	¶¶ 3-4, 10; Newman Decl., ¶¶ 3-4, 10;
	successful in cementing in the minds of	Luke Decl., ¶¶ 3-4, 10; Cohen Decl.,
(	dentists a strong association between	¶¶ 3-4, 10; Michiels Decl., ¶¶ 3-4, 10;
.1	the mark and Glidewell as the source of	Toca Decl., ¶¶ 3-4, 10.
]	BruxZir brand dental restoration	<del>.</del>
_1	products.	
	56. Glidewell has consistently used	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 19-29; Exhibits 8-14,

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1 2	conceived the name for its new line of	Deposition of Jim Shuck ("Shuck
3	monolithic zirconia dental restoration	Depo."); 15:21-16:8, attached Exhibit
4	products: BruxZir.	83 to Appendix of Evidence.
5	74. The name was chosen in large	Shuck Decl., ¶ 9.
6	part because it suggested the primary	
7	characteristics of the product: that it	·
8	was sufficiently strong and durable to	
9	be used in a variety of applications,	
10	including treating patients with bruxism	
11	("Brux"), and that the material from	
12	which the crown was fashioned is	
13	zirconia ("Zir").	
14	75. The product line was launched	Shuck Decl., ¶ 7; Shuck Depo. at
15	under the BruxZir mark in June 2009.	15:21-16:8, attached Exhibit 83 to
16		Appendix of Evidence.
17	76. Since its introduction in 2009,	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 40-41; Exhibit 46 to
18	the BruxZir line of restoration products	the Appendix of Evidence.
19	(primarily dental crowns and bridges)	• .
20	has been phenomenally popular,	
21	generating nearly in	
22	REDACTED	
23		
24	77. Glidewell has promoted the	Shuck Decl., ¶ 39.
25	product line heavily, investing nearly REDACTED	
26	in advertising its products	
27	under the BruxZir mark from June	
28	2009 to June 2012.	·
	1	[Dronograp] Cristian matter Or Helphanes and the Court control of Court

78. Glio	lewell applied to register the	Allred Decl., ¶ 3; Exhibits 59-60 to the
BruxZir m	ark on June 7, 2009 for use	Appendix of Evidence.
in connect	ion with dental bridges,	
dental cap	s, dental crowns, dental	
inlays, der	ntal onlays, and dental	
prostheses		
79. The	BruxZir mark was registered	Allred Decl., ¶¶ 4-5; Exhibits 59-60 to
on the Prin	ncipal Register on January	the Appendix of Evidence.
19, 2010,	as Reg. No. 3,739,663.	
80. As 1	noted on the registration for	Allred Decl., ¶¶ 3-5; Exhibit 59 to the
the BruxZ	ir mark, the class of goods	Appendix of Evidence.
and servic	es is "Dental bridges; Dental	
caps; Den	al crowns; Dental inlays;	
Dental on	ays; Dental prostheses."	
81. Glid	lewell also applied to register	Allred Decl., ¶¶ 7-8; Exhibit 61 to the
the BruxZ	ir mark in connection with	Appendix of Evidence.
another cl	ass of goods – dental	
ceramics -	on May 27, 2011; Keating	
filed an op	position to that application	
on Decem	ber 7, 2011, and the case is	
currently s	suspended in the Trademark	
	Appeal Board pending the	
outcome o	f this action.	
82. In N	May 2011, after nearly two	Shuck Decl., ¶ 15.
years of m	assive advertising and	
promotion	al activity by Glidewell	
under its I	BruxZir mark, Keating began	

former Glidewell BruxZir customers.

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	to offer competing full contour zirconia	
	dental crowns and bridges under the	
	brand "KDZ Bruxer."	
	83. Keating's product competes	Shuck Decl., ¶¶ 16, 19-29; Exhibits 8-
	directly with Glidewell's BruxZir	14, 17-19, 21-22, and 24-25 to the
	product – the products are offered to	Evidence of Appendix.
	the same universe of consumers	
	(dentists) through the same marketing	
	channels (e.g., Internet, direct mail, ads	
i	in dental industry journals) and at	
	similar price points (\$99 v. \$139).	
	84. In a sampling of 22 dentists	Ramirez Decl.¶ 9; Defendant's Third
	identified by Keating as KDZ Bruxer	Amended Initial Disclosures, attached
	customers, nine – i.e., 41% – were	as Exhibit 88 to the Appendix of

## II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Evidence.

- 1. To be valid and protectable, a mark must be "distinctive." *Zobmondo Enter.*, *LLC v. Falls Media, LLC*, 602 F.3d 1108, 1113 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2010).
- "Distinctiveness measures 'the primary significance of the mark to the purchasing public." *Id.* There are five categories of trademarks: (1) generic;
   (2) descriptive; (3) suggestive; (4) arbitrary; and (5) fanciful. *E.g.*, *Yellow Cab Co. of Sacramento v. Yellow Cab Co. of Elk Grove, Inc.*, 419 F.3d 925, 927 (9th Cir. 2005).
- 3. "The latter three categories are deemed inherently distinctive and are automatically entitled to protection because they naturally 'serve[] to identify a particular source of a product ...." Yellow Cab, 419 F.3d at 927 (quoting KP Permanent Make-Up, Inc. v. Lasting Impression I, Inc., 408 F.3d 596,

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- 4. A generic mark carries no protection, while a descriptive mark, although not inherently distinctive, can receive protection if it has acquired distinctiveness by establishing "secondary meaning" in the marketplace. See id. Which category a mark belongs in is a question of fact. Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1113.
- 5. In determining distinctiveness, the Court is "'required to consider standards of meaning not [its] own, but prevalent among prospective purchasers of the article." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1113 (quoting Bada Co. v. Montgomery Ward & Co., 426 F.2d 8, 11 (9th Cir. 1970)).
- "The fact-finder is not the designated representative of the purchasing public, 6. and the fact-finder's own perception of the mark is not the object of the Rather, the fact-finder's function is to determine, based on the evidence before it, what the perception of the purchasing public is." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1113 (quoting Lane Capital Mgmt., Inc. v. Lane Capital Mgmt., Inc., 192 F.3d 337, 344 (2d Cir. 1999)).
- 7. "[T]he fact that a mark is registered is strong evidence that the mark satisfies the statutory requirements for distinctiveness necessary for trademark protection." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1121 (quoting Retail Servs., Inc. v. Freebies Publ'g, 364 F.3d 535, 542 (4th Cir. 2004) (emphasis added)).
- 8. A "federal registration ... entitles the plaintiff to a 'strong presumption' that the mark is a protectable mark." Zobmondo Enter., LLC v. Falls Media. LLC, 602 F.3d 1108, 1113 (9th Cir. 2010); see also, e.g., Reno Air Racing Ass'n, Inc. v. McCord, 452 F.3d 1126, 1135 (9th Cir. 2006) ("[R]egistered marks are endowed with a strong presumption of validity ...").
- 9. "[T]he burden on the defendant necessary to overcome that presumption at summary judgment is heavy." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1115.
- "Where the PTO issues a registration without requiring proof of secondary 10.

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- meaning, the presumption is that the mark is inherently distinctive." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1113-14; see also, e.g., Quiksilver, Inc. v. Kymsta Corp., 466 F.3d 749, 760 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006) ("Where, as here, the PTO issues a mark registration without requiring proof of secondary meaning, the registrant ... enjoys a 'presumption that the purchasing public perceives the ... mark to be inherently distinctive.").
- 11. As the Ninth Circuit has explained, "'[d]eference to the PTO's classification decision is sensible because the PTO has special expertise that we lack on this fact-intensive issue." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1121 (quoting *Lahoti v. Vericheck, Inc.*, 586 F.3d 1190, 1199 (9th Cir. 2009)).
- 12. "Marks that constitute a common descriptive name are referred to as generic. A generic term is one that refers to the genus of which the particular product is a species." *Park 'N Fly, Inc. v. Dollar Park and Fly, Inc.*, 469 U.S. 189, 194 (1985).
- 13. "To determine whether a term has become generic, we look to whether consumers understand the word to refer only to a particular producer's goods or whether the consumer understands the word to refer to the goods themselves." *Yellow Cab Co. of Sacramento v. Yellow Cab of Elk Grove, Inc.*, 419 F.3d 925, 929 (9th Cir. 2004) (quoting *KP Permanent Make-Up, Inc. v. Lasting Impression I, Inc.*, 408 F.3d 596, 604 (9th Cir. 2005)).
- 14. If a buyer understands the terms as being identified with a particular producer's goods or services, it is not generic. *Id*.

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15. The Ninth Circuit has held that "[t]he crucial date for the determination of genericness is the date on which the alleged infringer entered the market with the disputed mark or term." Yellow Cab Co. of Sacramento v. Yellow Cab of Elk Grove, Inc., 419 F.3d 925, 928 (9th Cir. 2004); Nora Beverages, Inc. v. Perrier Grp. of Am., Inc., 164 F.3d 736, 744 (2d Cir. 1998) (holding that the relevant date for judging genericness is the date upon which Perrier, the

- competitor, introduced its competing product into the market); see also 2 J. Thomas McCarthy, McCarthy on Trademarks and Unfair Competition § 12:17.50, p. 12-61 (2012) ("The Second and Ninth Circuits have held that the crucial date for the determination of genericness is the date on which the alleged infringer entered the market with the disputed mark or term.").
- 16. Although the import of this evidence is not precisely clear, it is clear the Court must focus the validity inquiry on the trademark as a whole. *Reno Air Racing Ass'n, Inc. v. McCord*, 452 F.3d 1126, 1135 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006).
- 17. It is also clear under Ninth Circuit law that a composite mark may be distinctive even though its components individually are not. *Id.* (citing *California Cooler, Inc. v. Loretto Winery, Ltd.*, 774 F.2d 1451, 1455 (9th Cir. 1985)). Put another way, "the combination of generic terms may, in some instances, result in a distinctive mark." *Advertise.com, Inc. v. AOL Advertising, Inc.*, 616 F.3d 974, 978 (9th Cir. 2010).
- 18. A suggestive mark is one for which "a consumer must use imagination or any type of multistage reasoning to understand the mark's significance … the mark does not *describe* the product's features, but *suggests* them." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1114 (quoting *Kendall-Jackson Winery*, *Ltd. v. E.&J. Gallo Winery*, 150 F.3d 1042, 1047 n.8 (9th Cir. 1998)).
- 19. "[A] mark can be suggestive and still convey information about a product." Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1119; see, e.g., 2 J. Thomas McCarthy, McCarthy on Trademarks and Unfair Competition § 11:72 (4th ed. 2010) (listing marks that have been found "suggestive," including "CITIBANK" for an urban bank, "CLASSIC COLA" for a soft drink, "DIAL-A-MATTRESS" for mattress sales, and "FLORIDA TAN" for suntan lotion).
- 20. The most common test for assessing suggestiveness is the "imagination test," which asks whether "imagination or a mental leap is required in order to reach a conclusion as to the nature of the product being referenced."

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- Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1115 (quoting Rudolph Int'l v. Realys, Inc.,
   482 F.3d 1195, 1198 (9th Cir. 2007)).
  - 21. The imagination test "does not ask what information about the product *could* be derived from a mark, but rather whether 'a mental leap is *required*' to understand the mark's relationship to the product." *Id.* at 1116 (quoting *Rudolph Int'l*, 482 F.3d at 1198).
  - 22. "[I]f the mental leap between the word and the product's attribute is not almost instantaneous, this strongly indicates suggestiveness, not direct descriptiveness." *Self-Realization Fellowship Church v. Ananda Church of Self-Realization*, 59 F.3d 902, 911 (9th Cir. 1995).
  - 23. The Ninth Circuit has noted that the facts that a mark cannot be found in dictionaries, and is without literal meaning, support suggestiveness. *See Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1116.
  - 24. The Ninth Circuit has also noted that evidence that the accused infringer includes explanatory language with its allegedly infringing mark supports finding the mark to be suggestive rather than descriptive or generic. *See Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1120 n.12 (noting that accused infringer's use of explanatory language with its mark "cuts against the [accused infringer's] argument that [the mark] is a well-established, culturally-pervasive concept").
  - 25. The second test for assessing suggestiveness, known as the "competitors' needs" test, "focusses on the extent to which a mark is actually needed by competitors to identify their goods or services." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1117 (quoting *Rodeo Collection, Ltd. v. W. Seventh*, 812 F.2d 1215, 1218 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987)); see also Miss World (UK), Ltd. V. Mrs. America Pageants, Inc., 856 F.2d 1445, 1449 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987).
  - 26. "If competitors have a great need to use a mark, the mark is probably descriptive; on the other hand, if 'the suggestion made by the mark is so

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- remote and subtle that it is really not likely to be needed by competitive sellers to describe their goods or services[,] this tends to indicate that the mark is merely suggestive." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1117 (quoting *Rodeo Collection*, 812 F.2d at 1218).
- 27. Evidence that competitors do not need to use the mark supports finding the mark suggestive. See Zobmondo Enter., 602 F.3d at 1117 (noting that competitors' needs test "strongly favored" suggestiveness in view of, among other things, "significance evidence suggesting that [the mark holder's] competitors do not need to use [the mark] to fairly describe their products"); see also Aluminum Fabricating Co. v. Season-All Window Corp., 259 F.2d 314, 317 (2d Cir. 1958) (holding that "Season-all" did not render it difficult for competitors selling other storm doors and storm windows to adequately describe their products because there were a "wealth of synonyms and related words with which to describe" their own products).
- 28. Evidence that the mark had never previously been used for the same or similar products before "suggests that competitors do not find the mark useful in describing their products." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1120 (noting that expert's testimony on "lack of [prior] third party use tends to negate the inference ... that the mark is widely understood by consumers to refer to [the product at issue]").
- 29. A "merely descriptive" mark "describes the qualities or characteristics of a good or service." *Park 'N Fly, Inc. v. Dollar Park & Fly, Inc.*, 469 U.S. 189, 194 (1985). It "'define[s] qualities or characteristics of a product in a straightforward way that requires *no exercise of the imagination to be understood.*" *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1114 (quoting *Entreprenuer Media, Inc. v. Smith*, 279 F.3d 1135, 1141-42 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) (emphasis added)).
- 30. When the challenged mark is a registered mark, the "putative infringer's

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- burden is not simply to show that the mark describes a feature of the trademark holder's product; rather, it must show that consumers regard the mark as *merely* descriptive of that product." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1117 (quoting *Borinquen Biscuit Corp. v. M.V. Trading Corp.*, 443 F.3d 112, 119 (1st Cir. 2006)).
- 31. Although descriptive marks are not inherently distinctive and are therefore not entitled to automatic trademark protection, "a merely descriptive mark can become protectable if it has acquired disctinctiveness 'as used on or in connection with the applicant's goods in commerce." *Zobmondo Enter.*, 602 F.3d at 1113 (quoting 15 U.S.C. § 1052(f)). This acquired distinctiveness is referred to as "secondary meaning." *Id.*
- 32. "Secondary meaning is used generally to indicate that a mark ... 'has come through use to be uniquely associated with a specific source." *Quicksilver, Inc. v. Kymsta Corp.*, 466 F.3d 749, 760 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006) (quoting *Two Pesos, Inc. v. Taco Cabana, Inc.*, 505 U.S. 763, 766 n.4 (1992)).
- 33. Determining whether a descriptive mark has secondary meaning requires consideration of (1) whether actual purchasers of the product bearing the claimed trademark associate the trademark with the producer; (2) the degree and manner of advertising under the claimed trademark; (3) the length and manner of use of the claimed trademark; and (4) whether the use of the claimed trademark has been exclusive. *E.g.*, *Yellow Cab Co. of Sacramento v. Yellow Cab of Elk Grove, Inc.*, 419 F.3d 925, 930 (9th Cir. 2005).

Dated:

By: \_\_

Hon. David O. Carter United States District Judge

Glidewell Laboratories v. Keating Dental Arts, Inc.

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I hereby certify that on November 19, 2012, I electronically filed the MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF ITS DENTAL ARTS, INC.'S INVALIDITY DEFENSE AND COUNTERCLAIM with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System which will send notification **Attorneys for Defendant Keating** Dental Arts, Inc. Tel: (949) 760-0404 Fax: (949) 760-9502

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